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BRITISH PRESS ASSAILS U.S. FOR GIVING SOVIET 'PROPAGANDA VICTORY'

Some London Newspapers Call American
'Fools', 'Idiots'; President, Secretary
Presumably Reviewed Incident

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London, May 8 (AP)—West European officials appeared deeply disturbed today by Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev's success in exposing the intelligence activities of a United States jet plane over the Soviet Union.

There were widespread fears among free-world diplomats here that the American position in the Paris summit conference next week had been badly weakened.

At Home

Washington, May 8 (AP)—President Eisenhower, due to face Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev across the summit table a week from tomorrow, called his Secretary of State for an unscheduled conference today.

Presumably the prime topic of their discussion was the foreign policy impact of the United States spy-plane incident.

Mr. Eisenhower met with the Secretary of State, Christian A. Herter, immediately on returning to the White House from a weekend trip to his Gettysburg farm.

Herter was at the White House when the President arrived at 4:45 P.M. and remained with him until 6 P.M. After he left, the White House said there would be no comment on the discussion.

Herter's car was seen only after leaving the White House grounds. They confirmed through the President's press secretary, James C. Hager.

Herter, who had been away from an earlier press conference in late May, spoke most of yesterday's press conference. He said the State Department office was working on the question of the spy plane. He said Khrushchev's broadcast of the plane's mission was a propaganda victory.

The White House conference came as top officials said Khrushchev could virtually wreck prospects for friendly talks at the summit if he continued to hammer at the incident.

Meeting In Paris

The Soviet leader's public behavior in the next few days, these officials said, will determine the mood in which Mr. Eisenhower will approach the meeting in Paris next Monday.

A Republican congressional spokesman, Representative Miller of New York, suggested that Mr. Eisenhower might refuse to attend the Big Four meeting if Khrushchev "makes a circus out of" the plane episode in the next few days.

Miller, chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee, said the fate of the summit parley was at stake—depending on how Mr. Khrushchev handles it (the incident).

Speaking on a television program (CBS Face the Nation), Miller said "I suppose it does" when asked whether the United States admission jeopardized the life of the captured pilot.

Another Republican, Senator Case of New Jersey, said the United States had a right to send planes on spying missions over Russia.

Speaking on a television program (ABC College News Conference), Case was asked if he thought the country could afford to let the Soviet spy plane go for espionage purposes.

Case said that I do is that we are playing games. This is a real

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Exploitation Feared

Further moves by Khrushchev to exploit the incident in spectacular fashion will convince Mr. Eisenhower that the Soviet leader is more interested in propaganda than in creating a serene atmosphere for discussion of critical world problems, it is believed.

Diplomatic authorities said the case already has dimmed what slim prospects there were that the top level Big Four meeting could resolve the East-West deadlocks on the future of Berlin, Germany and disarmament.

Mr. Eisenhower and his top aides clearly would be deeply disturbed if, for example, Khrushchev put the captured American pilot on public display at a giant news conference or if he were put on public trial before the summit conference.

The frank admission by the State Department last night that the plane was on a high-altitude spy mission was clearly drafted with the hope that the Kremlin would play down further handling of the case lest it inflame East-West relations.

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